

IN THE CLAIMS:

1.-7. (Cancelled)

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8. (Currently Amended) Fuel system for a motor vehicle with a fuel container from which a fuel pump transports fuel via fuel pipelines from a system input location in the fuel container via a fuel filter towards an engine,

wherein a deposition tank is formed into a housing of the fuel filter under a filter material, which is provided in the housing, into which said tank dirt filtered out of the fuel is deposited, and

wherein a pressure accumulator is installed in the fuel system which accumulates and stores fuel when the engine is running and after the engine is switched off, the fuel stored in the pressure accumulator rinses the fuel filter to thereby operatively deposit said dirt into said tank.

9. (Previously Amended) Fuel system according to claim 8, wherein a portion of the fuel is transportable via the fuel pump into the pressure accumulator when the engine is running, and after the engine has been switched off, the fuel stored in the pressure accumulator is flowable through the fuel filter removing the dirt deposited in the filter material.

10. (Original) Fuel system according to claim 8, wherein a non-return valve is provided in the fuel pipeline leading to the engine after a branch point at which the fuel pipeline leading to the pressure accumulator is located.

11. (Currently Amended) Fuel system according to claim 8, wherein a pressure regulator is provided towards the engine at from a non-return valve.

12. (Currently Amended) Fuel system according to claim 10, wherein a pressure regulator is provided towards the engine at from the non-return valve.

13. (Previously Amended) Fuel system according to claim 11, wherein the fuel filter is connected to the fuel pump on a pressure side of the pump.

14. (Previously Amended) Fuel system according to claim 11, wherein the fuel filter is connected to the fuel pump on a suction side of the pump.

15. (Previously Amended) Fuel system according to claim 8, wherein the fuel filter is connected to the fuel pump on a pressure side of the pump.

16. (Previously Amended) Fuel system according to claim 8, wherein the fuel filter is connected to the fuel pump on a suction side of the pump.

17. (Currently Amended) A fuel system ~~according to claim 13, for a motor vehicle with a fuel container from which a fuel pump transports fuel via fuel pipelines from a system input location in the fuel container via a fuel filter towards an engine,~~

wherein a deposition tank is formed into a housing of the fuel filter under a filter material, which is provided in the housing, into which said tank dirt filtered out of the fuel is deposited,

wherein a pressure accumulator is installed in the fuel system which accumulates and stores fuel when the engine is running and after the engine is switched off, the fuel stored in the pressure accumulator rinses the fuel filter,

wherein a pressure regulator is provided towards the engine from a non-return valve,

wherein the fuel filter is connected to the fuel pump on a pressure side of the pump, and

wherein a delay valve is installed upstream of the pressure accumulator, so that after starting of the engine the pressure accumulator is filled with the fuel subject to a time delay.

18. (Previously Amended) Fuel system according to claim 8, wherein a delay valve is installed upstream of the pressure accumulator, so that after starting of the engine the pressure accumulator is filled with the fuel subject to a time delay.

19. (Previously Amended) Fuel system according to claim 17, wherein, in the housing, guide vanes are provided which prevent the fuel flowing through the filter material from touching or disturbing the dirt collected in the deposition tank.

20. (Currently Amended) Fuel system according to claim 10, wherein, in the housing, guide vanes are provided which prevent the fuel flowing through the filter material from touching or disturbing the dirt collected in the deposition tank.

21. (Currently Amended) Fuel system according to claim 8, wherein, in the housing, guide vanes are provided which prevent the fuel flowing through the filter material from touching or disturbing the dirt collected in the deposition tank.

22. (Previously Amended) Method of rinsing a fuel filter having a fuel system with a fuel pump, a fuel filter with filter material and a deposition tank which is formed into a housing of the fuel filter under the filter material, a pressure accumulator, a non-return valve and connecting fuel lines wherein the pressure accumulator is toward an engine from the fuel filter, comprising:

    accumulating fuel in the pressure accumulator during engine running, and

    rinsing dirt from the filter material by sending the fuel accumulated in the pressure accumulator through the fuel filter when the engine is turned off thereby the fuel washes the dirt on the filter material into the deposition tank.

23. (Previously Amended) Method according to claim 22, wherein the fuel pump is arranged toward the pressure accumulator from the fuel filter.

24. (Previously Amended) Method according to claim 22, wherein the fuel filter is arranged toward the pressure accumulator from the fuel pump.

25. (Original) Method according to claim 22, wherein the fuel after rinsing the filter material is collected in a fuel container.

26. (Original) Method according to claim 22, wherein the fuel filter, the pressure accumulator, the fuel pump and the non-return valve are a preassembled unit.

27. (Previously Amended) Method according to claim 22, wherein a pressure regulator is arranged toward the engine from the non-return valve.

28. (Currently Amended) Fuel system for a motor vehicle wherein a pump transports fuel via fuel pipelines via a fuel filter towards an engine,

wherein a deposition tank is formed into a housing of the fuel filter under a filter material into which said tank dirt filtered out of the fuel is deposited, and

wherein a pressure accumulator, which accumulates and stores fuel when the engine is running, is installed in the fuel system which, after the engine is switched off, the fuel stored in the pressure accumulator rinses the fuel filter to thereby operatively deposit said dirt into said tank.